

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-15, 17, 18, 20 and 22-26 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 16, 19 and 21 are pending. The claims have been amended, without prejudice.

Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, such as on lines 25-29 of page 7 of the specification. No new matter has been added.

To the extent not made moot by the above amendments, the Section 112, first paragraph "written description", rejection of claims 1-3, 7-10 and 16-22 is submitted to be obviated by the above amendments. One of ordinary skill will appreciate that the applicants were in possession of the claimed invention. Withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph "written description", rejection is requested.

To the extent not made moot by the above amendments, the Section 112, first paragraph "enablement", rejection of claims 1-3, 7-10 and 16-22 is submitted to be obviated by the above amendments. One of ordinary skill will be able to make and use the claimed invention without undue experimentation. Withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph "enablement", rejection is requested.

To the extent not made moot by the above amendments, the Section 102 rejection of claims 1-3, 7-10, 16-19, 21 and 22 over Guarente (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0136429), is obviated by the above amendments.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection are requested in view of the above and the following comments.

MILNER  
Appl. No. 10/589,253  
Atty. Ref.: 5229-2  
Amendment  
Monday, July 26, 2010

The cited art does not disclose an siRNA characterized by the sequences defined in SEQ ID NO: 11 and 12. This is a specific siRNA that inhibits the expression of SIRT1 transcripts that include exon 8 and therefore will inhibit the expression of full length SIRT1. Moreover, there is no suggestion in the cited art of a siRNA comprising the sequences recited in the claims. The claims are patentable over the cited art and withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection is requested.

The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned, preferably by telephone, in the event anything further is required.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

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